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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

REPLY TO ATTN OF: AFCSS

SUBJECT: Missile and Satellite Systems

14 October 1960

TO: DEPUTIES, DIRECTORS, AND CHIEFS OF COMPARABLE OFFICES (NO. 15)

1. The Secretary of the Air Force has established:

a. An Office of Missile and Satellite Systems (SAFMS) in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force to assist him in discharging his responsibility for the direct supervision and control of the SAMOS Project. The Director will provide the Executive Secretariat for the Air Force Ballistic Missile Committee. The Director, SAFMS, is responsible for maintaining liaison with the Office of the Secretary of Defense and other interested government agencies on matters relative to his assigned responsibilities. He may be assigned additional duties as deemed appropriate by the Secretary of the Air Force. Brigadier General Richard D. Curtin has been designated as Director of this office.

b. A Directorate of the SAMOS Project (SAFSP) at AFBMD as a field extension of the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force responsible to and reporting directly to the Secretary for management of the SAMOS Project. Brigadier General Robert E. Greer has been designated as Director with additional duty as Vice Commander for Satellite Systems, AFBMD, ARDC, with duty station at 2400 East El Segundo Blvd., El Segundo, California.

c. A Satellite Reconnaissance Technical Advisory Group and a Satellite Reconnaissance Advisory Council.

2. Effective immediately, the satellite reconnaissance program will be managed within the above structure. Further:

a. There will be no review or approval channels between the Director of the SAMOS Project and the Secretary of the Air Force. However, in order to maintain general project knowledge within those command or staff offices where such knowledge is necessary for program support or coordination of related matters, need-to-know briefings will be given on a periodic basis. Briefings will be given by SAFMS without request and not as a part of project management actions. Requests for briefings will be directed to the Secretary of the Air Force and will be approved on a strict need-to-know basis.

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b. Visits to the SAMOS Project Office, El Segundo, California, will be for official business only. Requests for visits by other than specifically accredited contractors and agencies of the government whose business requires regular and frequent visits will be directed to the Secretary of the Air Force for approval.

c. The Director of the SAMOS Project is authorized direct contact with major commands to request support.

d. The Director, Office of Missile and Satellite Systems is authorized direct contact with the Air Staff and other staffs and agencies to request support as required.

3. The Executive Secretariat of the Air Force Ballistic Missile Committee will be the responsibility of the Director of Missile and Satellite Systems. Pending resolution and clarification of Air Staff participation in the direction of Ballistic Missile and Space Programs, the Secretariat will continue to provide the Air Force Ballistic Missile Committee with a direct channel to the Inglewood Complex, Air Materiel Command, and the Air Staff. This will include the necessary arrangements for meetings and follow-on implementing actions. The Air Staff will keep this office fully advised on missile and space matters so as to insure maximum effectiveness for the Secretary of the Air Force and the Air Force Ballistic Missile Committee. Until more detailed operating instructions are issued, the Air Staff will continue to assist the Office of Missile and Satellite Systems in every way possible.

4. The high national importance accorded the SAMOS Project requires complete support and immediate response from all elements of the Air Force. All individuals and organizations of the Air Force are urged to provide the necessary resources and assistance to these offices to assure the timely attainment of missile and satellite objectives.

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Colonel, USAF
Secretary of the Air Staff